

walking trails at Lake Vyrnwy



Be smart!

- wear strong shoes or walking boots
 - take warm and waterproof clothing
 - watch out for service vehicles on forest tracks
 - keep on the roads and footpaths
 - keep dogs under control
 - lock your vehicle and don't leave valuables on display
 - don't drop litter, have fires or barbecues
 - don't swim or paddle in the lake
 - camping is not permitted
 - the lake is a drinking water reservoir.
- By being water efficient, you can ensure water supplies are secure

Welcome!

Lake Vyrnwy offers a range of trails to explore and enjoy. These cater for all abilities of walker, as there are long and short trails. The scenery is breathtaking with the dam, the lake, forests, rocky crags, hills and moorland, meadows, rivers, mountain streams and waterfalls. So get closer to nature, get some fresh air, relax in these wonderful surroundings and enjoy the following:

- **Cycling** - The twelve mile road around the lake is flat. Cycle hire is available from Artisans and Mandy's Tea Shop.
- **Water based activities** - Canoes and dinghies are available for hire from Bethania Adventure.
- **Fishing on the lake** - permits available from the Lake Vyrnwy Hotel.
- **Birdwatching** - there are three RSPB bird hides and an RSPB shop.
- **Lakeside Drive** - has scenic laybys and information points, car parking is free.
- **Shopping** - for local crafts and souvenirs, there is also the Tourist Information Centre.
- **Places to eat** with refreshments ranging from cream teas to gourmet meals or why not eat outdoors at one of the picnic sites.
- **Stay longer** - there are local bed & breakfasts, self catering accommodation, caravan parks and the Lake Vyrnwy Hotel.

Facts about Lake Vyrnwy

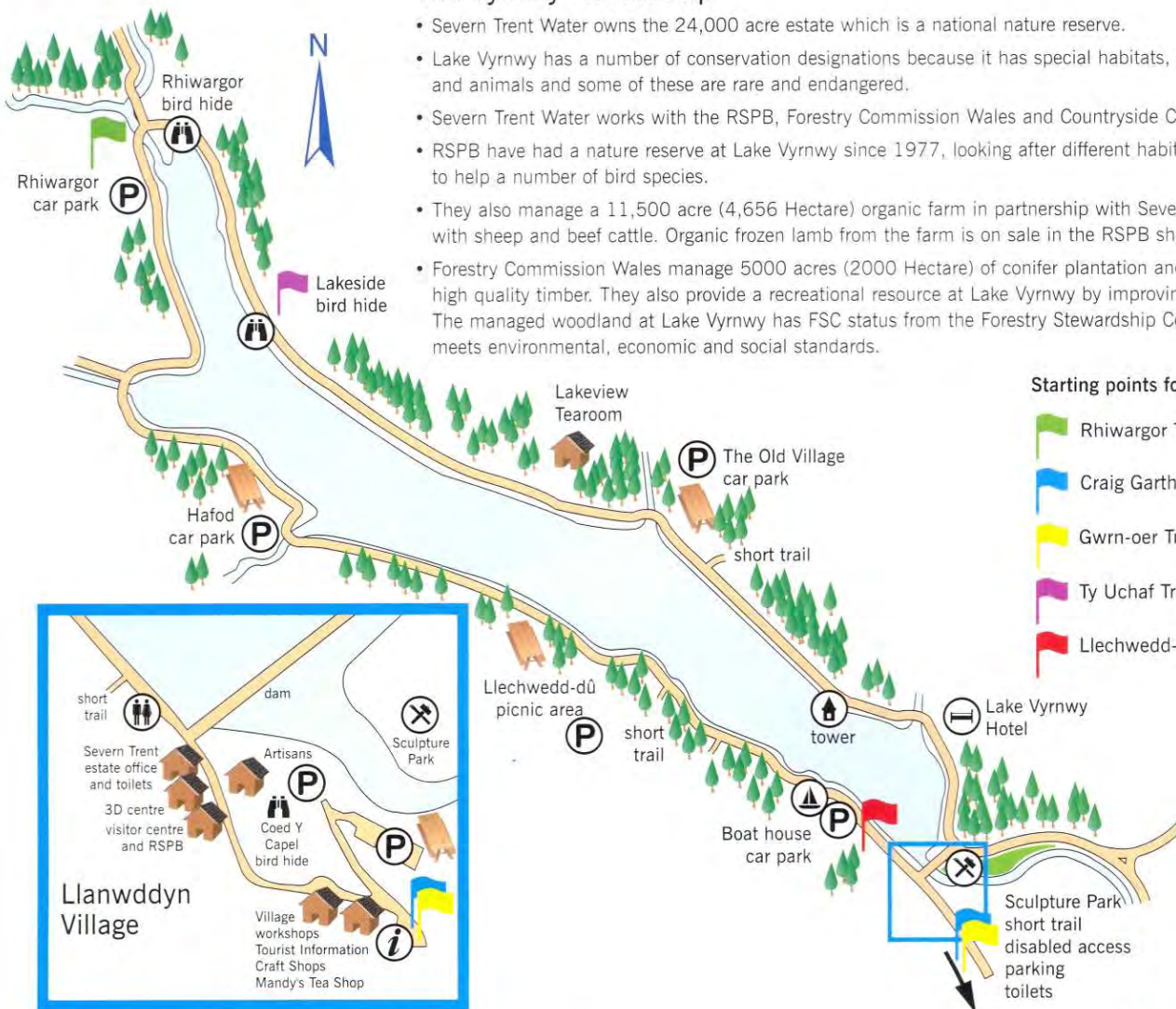
- Lake Vyrnwy is a man made reservoir built in the 1880s to supply Liverpool with drinking water
- It took a workforce of over 1000 men to build the dam
- It took almost a year for the lake to fill with water
- The dam is a Grade 1 listed building
- The lake is a reservoir and holds 13,000 million gallons
- The lake is four and half miles long and half a mile wide

The Sculpture Park

- Sculptures can be found around Lake Vyrnwy and are predominantly made from local wood.
- The Sculpture Park began in 1997 and is constantly growing, thanks to the annual International Sculpture Symposium.

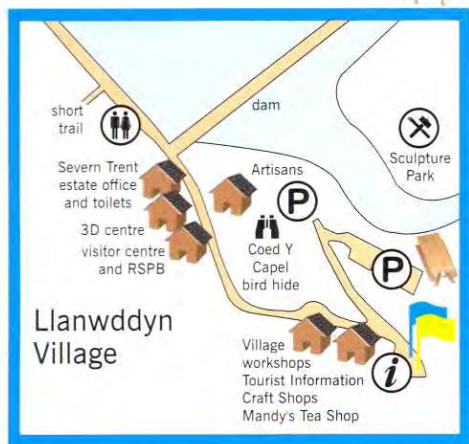
The Vyrnwy Partnership

- Severn Trent Water owns the 24,000 acre estate which is a national nature reserve.
- Lake Vyrnwy has a number of conservation designations because it has special habitats, birds, plants and animals and some of these are rare and endangered.
- Severn Trent Water works with the RSPB, Forestry Commission Wales and Countryside Council for Wales.
- RSPB have had a nature reserve at Lake Vyrnwy since 1977, looking after different habitats and working to help a number of bird species.
- They also manage a 11,500 acre (4,656 Hectare) organic farm in partnership with Severn Trent Water with sheep and beef cattle. Organic frozen lamb from the farm is on sale in the RSPB shop.
- Forestry Commission Wales manage 5000 acres (2000 Hectare) of conifer plantation and this produces high quality timber. They also provide a recreational resource at Lake Vyrnwy by improving access for visitors. The managed woodland at Lake Vyrnwy has FSC status from the Forestry Stewardship Council because it meets environmental, economic and social standards.



Starting points for trails

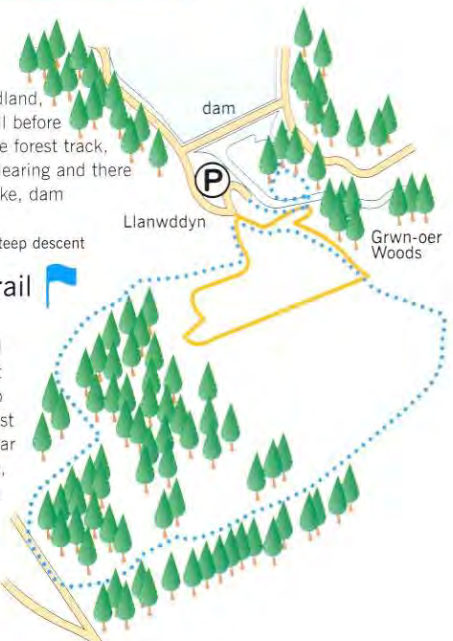
-  Rhiwargor Trail
-  Craig Garth-Bwlch Trail
-  Grwn-oeir Trail
-  Ty Uchaf Trail
-  Llechwedd-dû Trail



Grwn-oeir Trail

1-2 Miles (3.2km)

Walk through a sessile Oak woodland, Grwn-oeir woods to begin the trail before joining a minor road. Once on the forest track, you eventually reach the forest clearing and there enjoy a panoramic view of the lake, dam and the surrounding scenery. One hill (moderately steep) and one steep descent



Craig Garth Bwlch Trail

3 Miles (4.8km)

Once off the minor road, the trail takes you on a forest track and it opens out to give views across to Dyfnant Forest. Once out of forest plantation, there is the spectacular panoramic view of the lake, dam, hills, moorland, fields and forest. Two hills (both quite steep climbs) and one steep descent



Ty Uchaf Walk

5 Miles (7.8km)
If walked as a circular route

This trail can be walked either starting from the Lakeside Hide or after the Lakeview Tearoom. Take the opportunity to visit the tearoom (check opening times). This trail gradually climbs and gives views looking down on the lake and across to the hills, moorland and forest.



Rhiwargor Trail

2 Miles (3.2km)

Walk through the valley to the beautiful Rhiwargor Waterfall also known as Pistyll Rhyd- Y- Meinciau. The crags on the left where the trail begins are called Allt Y Gribin and then there are magnificent views of the surrounding hills walking up to the waterfall and on the journey down.



Llechwedd-du Walk

5 1/2 miles (9.1km)
If walked as a circular route (steep descent)

This trail is a steady climb and it gives stunning views high up looking down on the lake and across to the hills, moorland and forest and fields. The trail also gives closer views of the heather moorland once at the highest point. One hill (moderately steep) and one steep descent